## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

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Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 4:23-cv-01175-O

MEDIA MATTERS FOR AMERICA, et al.,

Defendants.

## **DEFENDANTS' REPLY ISO MOTION FOR STATUS CONFERENCE**

The parties agree that the Court should convene a conference to address the status of discovery because, as X puts it, "the schedule in this case merits review by the Court." Dkt. 188 (Pl's Resp.) at 2. Defendants respectfully request that the Court hold the conference at its earliest convenience (ideally the week of May 5, 2025 or before) because of the number of outstanding discovery issues, their complexity, and the fast-approaching discovery deadlines. *See* Dkt. 186 (Defs' Mot.) at 2–3.

X does not contest that a prompt status conference will facilitate the Court's evaluation of the schedule, outstanding motions, and streamline any further resolution needed. *See* Dkt. 188 at 2–3. X instead complains that key discovery motions will not be fully briefed before the requested conference. *Id.* But the conference need not short circuit the motions' briefing schedule. Rather, the conference will allow for the parties to enhance the Court's understanding as to their respective positions, and, consequently, might expedite the resolution of the disputes once these

motions are fully briefed.1

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The most important issue for the Court to resolve is timing and schedule given the multiple issues still pending in discovery (including X's refusal to even commit to a date by which it will substantially complete document production).

Document 189

With respect to the proposed schedule adjustment—which the Parties agree is necessary—Defendants will keep seeking cooperation from X to arrive promptly at a compromise. Defendants have, for weeks asked to confer with X on the matter. The notion that Defendants filed their request for a status conference "without adequately conferring with Plaintiff" is baseless. *See* Ex. A.

- On Friday, April 4, Defendants identified the schedule deadlines as an agenda item for a meet and confer call on Monday, April 7.
- During the April 7 meet and confer, Defendants stated that they believed the parties needed to adjust the discovery deadline and dispositive motion deadline in the schedule.
- On April 16, Defendants told X that they intended to seek a status conference to address the schedule and deposition protocol the parties had been discussing.
- On April 18, Defendants identified the specific issues they wanted to discuss with the Court and sent a proposed schedule.
- The parties met and discussed Defendants' proposed schedule on April 22.
- After weeks of discussion, the parties were not able to reach agreement on the schedule or deposition protocol, necessitating Defendants' motion.

Defendants reached out again today, Monday, April 28, 2025, to try and reach some compromise on the issue with X. Defendants disagree with many of the other assertions and characterizations in X's Response, but will address those in proper course. Regardless, the parties are united that a status conference would help move the case forward.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants are amenable to addressing any of the several outstanding issues in this case however the Court sees fit during the conference, including Defendants' Motion to Transfer Venue (Dkt. 152) and Plaintiffs' Motion For An Antisuit Injunction (Dkt. 156). But these two issues should not delay the needed schedule adjustments and resolution of discovery disputes, given the impending deadlines. Separately, X describes Defendants' Motion to Transfer Venue as "meritless," and makes superfluous references to "gamesmanship," Dkt. 188 at 1; Defendants disagree with these gratuitous characterizations, wholly irrelevant to the request at hand for a status conference.

Dated: April 28, 2025. Respectfully submitted,

## /s/ Justin A. Nelson

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on April 28, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was properly served on counsel of record via electronic filing in accordance with the USDC, Northern District of Texas Procedures for Electronic Filing.

| /s/ Justin A. Nelson |
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| Justin A. Nelson     |